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II. FIGURE DRAWING, THE EYE

PLATE II

The curvature of the eyelids is affected primarily by the convex form of the eyeball; but when the action of the head is considered and the consequent effect on the position of the eye to the beholder, when the variety of movement in the eye itself is realized, we begin to appreciate the subtlety in curvature in the lids. Add to this the infinite variation in the character of eye and expression, and a most resourceful means of study is opened to the student of figure drawing. It is, however, well for him to master the construction of the eye through the study of a simple position from many points of view, such as the eye looking well ahead and drawn in profile, full and three-quarter views; draw the three-quarter from both inner and outer points of view.

With these drawings made and every turn of the lids understood, the student may proceed with the assurance of grasping the more complicated positions. The upper lid makes a subtle spiral curve in its envelopment of the ball (note three-quarter view, plate I); in so doing it hides the thickness of the lid toward the outer corner, but becomes evident again at the downward turn approaching the inner corner. In the three-quarter view, as seen from the inner corner (note plate II) with iris near the same, the construction of the lids becomes plainly visible, the inner line of the thickness of both lids marks the pure convexity of the ball, the angle of the meeting of the lids is lost in the foreshortening in beautiful curves, the diminishing thickness at the approach of the corner is noticeable. Note how the breadth of the upper lid decreases and becomes hidden in proportion as the thickness becomes visible. In the eye looking downward the upper lid apparently straightens out while the lower assumes greater curvature due to the pressure of the greater convexity of the iris, which in this action is partially covered by it. Observe the slight descent of the upper lid toward the outer corner (note in plate II). In the eye looking up, the reverse takes place; the upper lid marks the full convexity of the eyeball with sweeping curve, the breadth of the upper lid is diminished, but the thickness is plainly visible all the way; on the other hand the lower lid flattens out, containing a slight reverse curve, rising slightly from within outward (note plate II). The greater convexity of the iris delicately affects the curvature of the lids in its various movements. The iris is formed like a single convex lens with the pupil in the flat portion. It assumes changes in form and direction, variable from circular to oval. The thickness of the upper lid fringed with sweeping lashes shades the ball and gives added depth to the iris. J. H. VANDERPOEL.

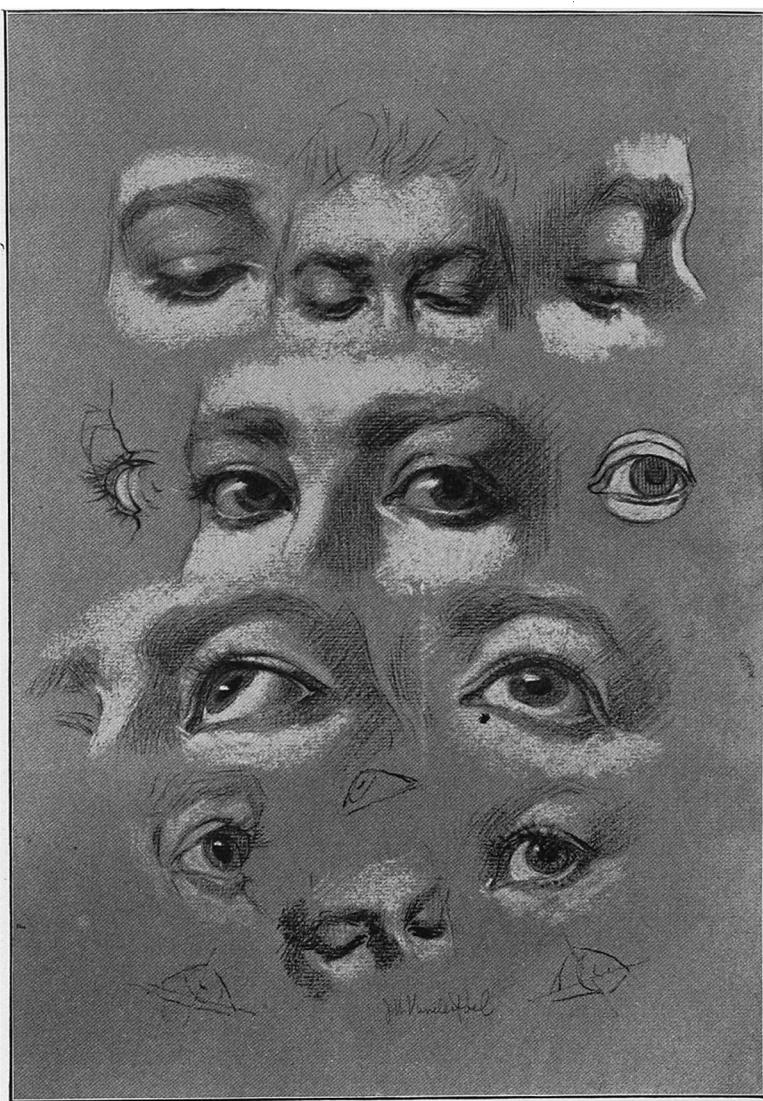


PLATE II
FIGURE DRAWING, BY J. H. VANDERPOEL